ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE BOURNE URBAN DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1921.

BOURNE, April 6th, 1922.

TO THE BOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

There have been issued by the Ministry of Health, probably to obviate the constant repetitions of which you are aware, fresh instructions as to the preparation of Annual Reports These will now fall into two classes: (*a*) a Report of full and detailed character will be compiled every fifth year and known as a Survey Report; (*b*) a Report of a more simple character and known as an Ordinary Report, to be issued each intervening year.

The Report for the year 1921 is to be considered as the first Ordinary Report following on a Survey Report.

W. J. GILPIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	9775
Population (1921)	4317
Number of Inhabited Houses	1123
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers	1128
Rateable Value	£28749
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£70

NOTE.—The population, as computed by the Registrar-General, was 4926, and proved, as I had anticipated, much too large.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.	Legitimate—Males 51,	Females 31		Birth rate 20·6
	Illegitimate ,, 6,	,, 1		
	57	32	Total 89	
DEATHS.	Males 28	Females 37	Total 65	Death Rate 12·5

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of childbirth	1
Deaths of Infants under one year of age—Legitimate 3, Illegitimate 2	5
Death Rate of Infants per 1000 born	56
Deaths from Measles	None
,, Whooping Cough	None
,, Diarrhœa (under two years)	3

NOTE.—The comparative figures for England and Wales are as follows:

Birth rate per thousand	22·4
Death rate ,, ,, ...	12·1
Death rate of Infants under one year per thousand born	83

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease		Total Cases Notified	Cases sent to Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria		1	—	—
Scarlet Fever		25	20	—
Enteric Fever		—	—	—
Puerperal Fever		—	—	—
Pneumonia		3	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...		1	—	1
Euceptalitis Lethargica		1	—	1
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	Male	3	—	—
	Female	3	—	2
		6		2
Non-Pulmonary	Male	—	—	—
	Female	—	—	—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—One case notified, was treated at home and recovered with unimpaired vision.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

The only specially noteworthy causes of sickness were:—An epidemic of Sickness and Diarrhœa in the early autumn, from which the deaths of two children and one adult resulted; an outbreak of Influenza just previous to the end of the year.

SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, ETC.
available for the District.

There is no provision for the home nursing of general or of infectious diseases or of midwifery, and there are no midwives in the district.

This matter was under the discussion of your Council a year ago and the following report was submitted to you by me:—

"Together with your Clerk, I have had an interview with Miss Morris, the County Superintendent Lincs. Nursing Association who is acting officer in these matters for the Kesteven County Council.

Briefly, the recommendations are as follows:—

i. A Queen's Nurse should be employed at an approximate salary of £180 per annum.

ii. She should be employed by the Bourne Nursing Association under the supervision of the Lincolnshire Nursing Association.

iii. Since the Bourne Nursing Association controls and finances the Butterfield Hospital, the fund for this District Nurse and Midwife should be entirely distinct and separate.

iv. The County Council would refund half the cost up to a maximum of £180 per annum, that is to say, would be responsible, if necessary, for £90.

v. That, as the Bourne Nursing Association is destitute of funds except what is required for the maintenance of the Butterfield Hospital, your Council should guarantee an equal sum to that paid by the County Council."

It is to be regretted that your Council decided to take no steps in the matter.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in the North Street has been well attended every alternate Thursday and much good work has been done, but the lack of a grant from the County Council, under whose supervision the work is carried on, is felt to be a hindrance.

Within your District are the following Hospitals:—

1. The Isolation Hospital of the Bourne Rural District Council, to which your infectious cases are sent.
2. The Butterfield Cottage Hospital.
3. Certain beds at the Bourne Union Infirmary.

A Motor Ambulance, provided by the Red Cross Society, is now available for the transport of cases to hospital.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The Sanitary Inspector, whose duties are combined with those of Surveyor, reports as follows :—

FOOD CONDEMNED.

		Meat Tins	Fish Tins	Fruit Tins	Milk Tins	Ham
	June	57	89	34	—	—
	August	9	9	22	39	—
	October	3	4	1	2	—
	December	3	1	3	—	—
1922	March	—	7	4	--	6½lbs.
	Total	72	110	64	41	6½lbs.

The Inspection of the various Slaughter Houses has not been as frequent as is desirable, this is due to the Officer's time being constantly called upon in exercising those duties which should be carried out by a competent road foreman. The sanitary conditions of the district would receive their share of the Officer's attention if the Council would assist in appointing an experienced man to take some of the supervision upon the roads.

The condition of some of the Cowsheds will call for improvement structurally as soon as the cost of building is reduced to a reasonable figure. Too much emphasis cannot be used in the daily cleansing of the Cowsheds if a clean wholesome supply of milk is to be maintained.

SEWERS.

The main sewers situated in the heart of the town have been thoroughly cleansed with good results.

One important connection has been made from Abbey Road to the Manning Road Housing Site.

DISINFECTION.

This has been carefully carried out after cases of infectious disease, 26 houses have been disinfected.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(*a*) Total 10

(*b*) As part of a municipal housing scheme 8

1. UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 40

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 0

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 0

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 5

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 5

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—

(*a*) by owners 0

(*b*) by Local Authority in default of owners 0

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ... 0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 15

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—

(*a*) by owners 15

(*b*) by Local Authority in default of owners 0

C.—Proceedings under section 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... 0

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit 0

(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 0

(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 0

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BY

W. J. GILPIN, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., &c.

Medical Officer of Health.

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